

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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46-40

ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 EUR-08 RSC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 4168

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 16636

LIMDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR "A" AND WHITE HOUSE FOR RUSTAND/HENKEL

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJ: PRESIDENT FORD'S VALDIVOSTOK TRIP

REF: A. STATE 237886

B. MOSCOW 16575

C. MOSCOW 16576

1. IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON KORNIYENKO (REF B), DURING WHICH HE CONVEYED REQUESTS IN REF A AND SOUGHT SOVIET COOPERATION IN ALLOWING EMBOFFS TO TRAVEL TO VLADIVOSTOK AREA NEXT WEEK, DEPUTY CHIEF USA DIVISION HAS NOTIFIED EMBASSY OF FOLLOWING "OFFICIAL POSITIONS":

A. SOVIET ADVANCE PARTY WILL TRAVEL TO VLADIVOSTOK NOVEMBER 10. THEREFORE, U.S. PRE ADVANCE PARTY CANNOT RPT CANNOT BE RECEIVED BEFORE NOVEMBER 11 AT EARLIEST. ACCEPTABILITY OF NOVEMBER 11 ARRIVAL DATE IS SUBJECT TO SOVIET CONFIRMATION.

B. NO PERSONNEL OF EMBASSY MOSCOW WILL BE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL TO VLADIVOSTOK AREA UNTIL FURTHER NOTIFICATION. (IMPLICATION IS THAT THEY MAY NOT PROCEED UNTIL MFA ADVANCE PARTY TRAVELS ON NOVEMBER 10.)

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C. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERSONNEL FROM EMBASSY TO BE ALLOWED TRAVEL TO VLADIVOSTOK AREA TO SUPPORT PRESIDENTIAL VISIT WILL BE THREE TO FIVE RPT THREE TO FIVE PERSONS.

2. WE UNDERTOOK ONLY TO CONVEY THESE POSITIONS TO WASHINGTON, POINTING OUT THAT PRESIDENT'S TRAVEL SCHEDULE MAY MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO DELAY PRE-ADVANCE PARTY'S ARRIVAL TO NOVEMBER 11.

3. IF EMBASSY OFFICERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO TRAVEL TO VLADIVOSTOK AREA EARLY NEXT WEEK, WE WILL OBVIOUSLY NOT BE IN POSITION TO OBTAIN FIRST-HAND INFORMATION ABOUT SITE AND OPERATING CONDITIONS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF PRE-ADVANCE OR TO ASSIST INPREPARATIONS FOR RECEIVING PRE-ADVANCE PARTY. IF SOVIETS HOLD TO POSITION THAT NOT MORE THAN FIVE MEMBERS OF EMBASSY WILL BE ALLOWED TO SUPPORT VISIT, EMBASSY'S ABILITY TO ASSIST ARRANGEMENTS IN THIS REMOTE AND (TO US) TOTALLY UNKNOWN AREA WILL BE SEVERELY CIRCUMSCRIBED.

4. REQUEST WHITE HOUSE AND DEPARTMENT REACTION TO SOVIET POSITIONS IN PARA ONE AND INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING RESPONSE DESIRED.

STOESSEL

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